



Ponteland Community Middle School soon to be a Primary School

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Newsletter 17 July 2020

'We take our vision from John 10:10 'that they have life and have it abundantly'

Dear Parents and Pupils

This is the ultimate PCMS newsletter as we change from Ponteland Community Middle School to Ponteland Community Primary School. We opened in 1972, our logo was designed by Jim Hall whose grandson is with us currently. Naturally, this logo is remaining as our emblem of high standards, sustained vision and contribution to children, staff, the community and families.

Following the increase in applications; the government guidance for 2020/21; and our commitment to you and your children's education we are extending our superb team and advertising for a Y3/4 teacher. We see this as a timely investment for September rather than a potential mid-year reaction in response to further increases. Our advertisement appears on our Facebook page and school website.

The legacy and attraction of middle schools within our region continues and it is with a heavy heart that we say 'fare well' to Mrs Nixon and Mrs Garner in one breath and then celebrate the arrival of outstanding teachers Miss Brown, Mr Lavery, Mr Bottley and Mr E [our 'mystery' soon to be appointed new member of staff] to join our excited, prepared and energised team of teachers and teaching assistants.

Class rooms are set up for September with appropriate sized pupil desks, in rows, with pupils facing the teacher, who will be 2m away at the front of the class.

Following the recent government guidance, our 2020/2021 bubbles are Early Years and KS1 (Nursery, Reception, Y1 & Y2) with Mrs Cafferty, TAs, Miss Brownlees and Miss Brown; Years 3 and 4 with Mrs Blackburn, Mr E and me helping with interventions; Year 5 with Mrs Herdman and Mr Bottley; Year 6 with Miss Fletcher and Mr Lavery; and Year 8 with Mr Burgess, Mr Johnson and me [teaching KS3 English].

The EY will use their bespoke EY entrance; Year 1 and 2 will use the Studio [former lab 1] and have the soft arrival time of 8.45-9am finishing at 3.15pm. Years 3 and 4 will use the Studio entrance but from 8.45 to 3.30pm. Years 5 and 6 will use the current Y6 entrance; and Year 8 will use their current entrance.

For the first two days of school [Thursday 3 and Friday 4 September] children will be with form teachers to settle in to routines, expectations and timetables. As they receive their timetables they will hear that on PE days they are to come in to school in their PE kit with an change of pitch trainers and sports clothes in case of inclement weather. And on non PE days they are expected to come in to school in winter uniform—collared shirt and tie.

In case the guidance changes over the holidays, we shall send out the Covid guidance and updated behaviour expectations on our teacher training days on 1st and 2nd of September.

This brings me to a close, saying thank you for all your kindness, support, generosity and your adorable children. I am around during the summer as we anticipate starting the Football Foundation supported PUFC/PCPS refurbishment project in the sports hall classrooms. No doubt there will be updates on Facebook.

In the meantime, keep safe, keep well and keep in touch. We shall be checking admin@ponteland.academy regularly and follow up any queries.

Have a fabulous summer.

Caroline



